

University of Groningen

Negative symptoms of schizophrenia

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Stellingen

Repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation is a promising upcoming therapy for negative symptoms of schizophrenia that deserves further research (*this thesis*)

Brain stimulation offers a better treatment alternative for negative symptoms of schizophrenia than the pharmaceutical options now available; it has less side effects and does not work systemic, whereas therapeutic efficacy seems similar (*this thesis*)

High frequency prefrontal repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation in patients with schizophrenia has the potential of increasing their prefrontal metabolism (*Chapter 4 and 5, this thesis*)

Social dysfunctioning as seen in schizophrenia may be related to expressive deficits and hypoactivation of the fronto-thalamic circuit of the brain (*Chapter 6, this thesis*)

Patients suffering from social emotional withdrawal may experience more difficulty in goal-directed behavior and planning (*Chapter 7, this thesis*)

Research on negative symptoms of schizophrenia should acknowledge the two factors of negative symptoms: expressive deficits and social emotional withdrawal/avolition (*this thesis*)

There is a selection bias when conducting clinical research on negative symptoms: it is likely that a substantial portion of patients suffering from negative symptoms decline to participate as amotivation is one of the core features of negative symptoms (*this thesis*)

PhD candidates may profit from brain stimulation when their brain short-circuits/when they have a writer's block

Professors and PhD supervisors may also benefit from brain stimulation in case of brain overload

"Dream in a pragmatic way." Aldous Huxley